REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in light of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative, Jennifer Ying, during the telephone conference of November 9, 2006. The claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 and 35 U.S.C. §102 were discussed. During the conference, it was noted that the claims had been interpreted under 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph, in previous responses such as the Amendment filed on April 15, 2003, and the Amendment filed on January 14, 2004. The Examiner agreed that the pending claims would be re-interpreted under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph. *See*, Detailed Action, page 6, Examiner's note.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-3, 17-22, and 33-38 are pending. Claims 4-16 and 23-32 have been previously withdrawn.

No amendments, cancellations, or additions have been made.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings, contending that the drawings do not illustrate the "adjusting means," "guide means," and "the first and second drive branching links" recited in the claims. During the November 9th telephone conference, it was agreed that the Examiner would reinterpret the claims under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

Claims 1-3, 17-22, and 33-36 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner contends that the Specification does not sufficiently disclose the "adjusting means" and "guiding means" recited in the claims. During the November 9th telephone conference, it was agreed that the Examiner would reinterpret the claims under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 19-22, 33, and 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner contends that the feature of the center position being "proximate" the one dead center is unclear. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 19 recites "a center position on said adjusting means; said center position being proximate said one dead center position." Applicant submits that the center position of the adjusting means is "proximate" to the one dead center position because the center position is near the one dead center position. As described in the Specification on page 12, lines 5-6 and page 15, lines 17-19, the center position of the guide board 14 is the bottom dead center position of the small end of connecting rod 11. When the pin 12 of the slider 13 is positioned in the center position of guideboard 14, the upper support pin 24 of the connecting link 26 is positioned at the bottom dead center position. Therefore, Applicant submits that the center position of the adjusting means is

Application No.: 09/846,703 16 Docket No.: 09637/000L305-US0

"proximate" to the one dead center position of the adjusting means. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 1-3, 77-22, and 33-38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,848,568 to Imanishi. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

During the November 9th telephone conference, it was agreed that the Examiner would reinterpret the claims under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph. Furthermore, Applicant noted that the Imanishi rejection had been previously traversed in Applicant's April 15, 2003 response. Specifically, Applicant notes that Imanishi fails to disclose the "adjusting means" recited in the present claims as properly interpreted under 35 U.S.C. §112, sixth paragraph. *See*, April 15, 2003 Response, page 10, Item IV. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Imanishi does not anticipate the invention recited in the claims. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Application No.: 09/846,703 17 Docket No.: 09637/000L305-US0

CONCLUSION

Each and every point raised in the Office Action mailed September 6, 2006 has been addressed on the basis of the above remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that claims 1-3, 17-22, and 33-38 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: December 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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